

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Revocation)	
)	
or Suspension of the Educator)	ORDER OF
)	
Certificate of Barbara Ann Howard)	VOLUNTARY SURRENDER
)	
Certificate # 076701)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on November 9, 2004. On May 8, 2003, Ms. Barbara A. Howard was charged with Mandatory Test Security Violation under S.C Code Ann. §59-1-445(1)(A) (2004). On May 27, 2004, as a condition set by the Court, Ms. Howard agreed to the surrender of her educator certificate, #076701. If Ms. Howard chooses to re-apply for a certificate, Ms. Howard must undergo a character fitness review by the State Board.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Howard holds a valid South Carolina certificate with over thirty-three years of teaching experience credit. She was under contract with Orangeburg County School District Five (District) for the 2001-2002 school year as a teacher at Bowman Elementary School. On April 29, 2002, Ms. Howard gave her students access to test questions from the 2002 Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test prior to testing. Effective May 27, 2004, Ms. Howard retired from the District.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

“The South Carolina Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-150 (2004). Just cause includes “Willful violation of the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education ...and...Crime against the law of this State or the United

States.” S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that just cause exists to support its decision to accept Ms. Howard’s voluntary surrender of her certificate, # 076701, effective November 9, 2004, upon the conditions set forth above.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Mary E. Jones

Dr. Mary E. Jones

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
November 9, 2004